AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-27 (cancelled).

Claim 28 (new):   A driver circuit comprising:

a circuit node,

at least two first transistors, the load sections of which are connected in series and connect the circuit node with a predetermined voltage,

at least two second transistors, the load sections of which are connected in series and connect the circuit node with a reference potential,

a control circuit designed to regulate at least a first control voltage on at least one transistor of the at least two first transistors and at least a second control voltage on at least one transistor of the at least two second transistors dependent on a voltage at the circuit node,

wherein the control circuit is also designed to increase the control voltages in an inactive state of the driver circuit, when at least one threshold value is exceeded by the voltage on the circuit node,

wherein the control circuit is also designed to change the driver circuit dependent on an enabling signal into an active or the inactive state, and

wherein the control circuit comprises an electrical path from the circuit node to the reference potential, which electrical path has at least one diode to pre-set the at least one threshold value,

further comprising a switching means which is controlled by the enabling signal so that it is conductive in the inactive state and connects control inputs of one of the at least two first transistors and one of the at least two second transistors.

Claim 29 (new): The driver circuit according to claim 28, characterized in that the control circuit is also designed to regulate the control voltages in the active state in such a manner that the transistors controlled by the control voltages are approximately in saturation.

Claim 30 (new): The driver circuit according to claim 28, wherein the electrical path includes a resistor.

Claim 31 (new): The driver circuit according to claim 28, wherein said driver circuit is implemented in CMOS technology and the transistors are MOSFET's.

Claim 32 (new): The driver circuit according to claim 31, wherein the at least two first transistors are p-channel MOSFET's and the at least two second transistors are n-channel MOSFET's.

Claim 33 (new): The driver circuit according to claim 31, wherein a gate control is provided for controlling the gate voltage of at least one transistor of the at least two first transistors.

Claim 34 (new): A driver circuit comprising:

a circuit node,

at least two first transistors, the load sections of which are connected in series and connect the circuit node with a predetermined voltage,

at least two second transistors, the load sections of which are connected in series and connect the circuit node with a reference potential, and

a control circuit designed to regulate at least a first control voltage on at least one transistor of the at least two first transistors and at least a second control voltage on at least one transistor of the at least two second transistors dependent on a voltage at the circuit node,

wherein the control circuit is also designed to change the driver circuit dependent

on an enabling signal into an active or inactive state,

wherein the control circuit is designed to increase the control voltages in the inactive state when at least one threshold value is exceeded by the voltage on the circuit node, and

wherein the control circuit comprises an electrical path, which comprises the load section of a transistor controlled by the enabling signal, said transistor being connected on the one hand with a further voltage and on the other hand with a diode and serves to regulate the control voltages in the inactive state, as long as the voltage on the circuit node is below the at least one threshold value,

further comprising a switching means which is controlled by the enabling signal so that it is conductive in the inactive state and connects control inputs of one of the at least two first transistors and one of the at least two second transistors.

Claim 35 (new): A driver circuit comprising:

a circuit node,

at least two first transistors, the load sections of which are connected in series and connect the circuit node with a predetermined voltage,

at least two second transistors, the load sections of which are connected in series and connect the circuit node with a reference potential, and

a control circuit designed to regulate at least a first control voltage on at least one transistor of the at least two first transistors and at least a second control voltage on at least one transistor of the at least two second transistors dependent on a voltage at the circuit node,

wherein the control circuit is also designed to change the driver circuit dependent on an enabling signal into an active or inactive state, and

wherein the driver circuit is configured in such a manner that in the active state it consumes no static power,

further comprising a switching means which is controlled by the enabling signal so that it is conductive in the inactive state and connects control inputs of one of the at least two first transistors and one of the at least two second transistors.